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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/563,258	01/04/2006	Takeshi Iwatsu	277188US6PCT	9948
22850	7590	04/02/2008	EXAMINER	
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			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2165	
			NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			04/02/2008	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/563,258	Applicant(s) IWATSU ET AL.	
	Examiner SON T. HOANG	Art Unit 2165	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 December 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10-17 and 19-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10-17, and 19-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 04 January 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>15 October 2007</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This communication is in response to the amendment filed on December 20, 2007.

Claims 1, 4-6, 10-17, and 19-23, have been amended.

Claims 24-31 have been added.

Abstract has been amended.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's sole argument towards **claims 1, 10, and 19**, regarding the fact that Yuji (*Pub. No. JP 2003-173278, published on June 20, 2003*) does not teach and disclose "*said data deletion means determines that said deletion-target priority of said data is high to delete said data if attribution of said data shows that said data is content copied from an external storage medium*".

The Examiner respectfully submits in particular in response to Applicant's remark. Applicant asserts the condition of determining "*said deletion-target priority of said data is high*" only becomes true if and only if "*attribution of said data shows that said data is content copied from an external storage medium*" (emphasis added). The claim language clearly shows that if attribution of said data does not show that said data was copied from an external storage medium, the process would do nothing. The Examiner takes this way of interpretation into consideration and disregards the newly added limitation.

Interpretation of Claims-Broadest Reasonable Interpretation

During patent examination, the pending claims must be given the broadest reasonable interpretation consistent with the specification.' Applicant always has the opportunity to amend the claims during prosecution and broad interpretation by the Examiner reduces the possibility that the claim, once issued, will be interpreted more broadly than is justified. In re Prater, 162 USPQ 541,550-51 (CCPA 1969).

Reference is made to MPEP 2144.01 - Implicit Disclosure

"[I]n considering the disclosure of a reference, it is proper to take into account not only specific teachings of the reference but also the inferences which one skilled in the art would reasonably be expected to draw therefrom." In re Preda, 401 F.2d 825, 826, 159 USPQ 342, 344 (CCPA 1968)

Subsequent to an analysis of the claims it was revealed that a number of limitations recited in the claims belong in the prior art and thus encompassed and/or implicitly disclosed in the reference (s) applied and cited. It is logical for the Examiner to focus on the limitations that are "crux of the invention" and not involve a lot of energy and time for the things that are not central to the invention, but peripheral. The Examiner is aware of the duties to address each and every element of claims, however, it is also important that a person prosecuting a patent application before the Office or an stakeholders of patent granting process make effort to understand the level of one of ordinary skill in the (data processing) art or the level one of skilled in the (data processing) art, as encompassed by the applied and cited references. The administrative convenience derived from such a cooperation between the attorneys and Examiners benefits the Office as well the patentee.

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In view of the above, the Examiner contends that all limitations as recited in the claims have been addressed in this Action.

For the above reasons, the Examiner believed that rejections of the last Office action were proper.

Hence, Applicant's arguments do not distinguish over the claimed invention over the prior art of record.

In light of the foregoing arguments, the 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103 rejections are hereby sustained.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. As required by **M.P.E.P. 609(C)**, the Applicant's submission of the Information Disclosure Statement dated October 15, 2007 is acknowledged by the Examiner. Only the cited references have been considered in the examination of the claims now pending but not the related applications since they were all filed after the earliest filing date of this instant application. As required by **M.P.E.P 609 C(2)**, a copy of the PTOL-1449 initialed and dated by the Examiner is attached to the instant office action.

Abstract

4. The newly amended abstract of the disclosure is accepted for examination purposes.

Specification

5. The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o).

Evidently, the specification fails to provide an explicit definition and/or explanation for the cited “*computer readable medium*” in **claims 19-23**, thus insufficiently supports the claimed medium. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

6. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

7. **Claims 1-8, 10-17, 19-31**, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding **independent claims 1, 10, 19, and 24**, Applicant cites the conditional statements of “*if attribution of said data shows that said data is content copied from an external storage medium*”, only then, the determination of “*the deletion-target priority of said data is high*” would be carried out. The claim language clearly shows that if attribution of said data does not show that said data was copied from an external storage medium, the process would do nothing. The Examiner takes this way of interpretation into consideration.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

8. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

9. **Claims 19-23** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matters.

Regarding **claim 19**, “*a computer readable medium including computer executable instructions...*” is being recited. However, the definition and/or explanation for the claimed “*computer readable medium*” cannot be found any where in the disclosure. Hence, the claimed medium can easily be interpreted by a person with ordinary skills in the art to include information delivery media which typically embody computer readable instructions, data structures, program modules or other data in modulated data signal such as carrier wave or other transport mechanism. As such, the claims are drawn to a form of energy. Energy is not one of the four categories of invention and therefore this claim is not statutory. Energy is not a series of steps or acts and thus is not a process. Energy is not a physical or object and as such is not a machine or manufacture. Energy is not a combination of substances and therefore not a composition of matter.

Claims 20-23 fail to resolve the deficiencies of **claim 19** since they only further limit the scope of **claim 19**. Therefore, **claims 20-23** are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

10. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

11. **Claims 1-6, 10-15, 19-22, and 24-29**, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Yuji (*Pub. No. JP 2003-173278, published on June 20, 2003*).

Regarding **claim 1**, Yuji clearly shows and discloses a data storage control apparatus ([0018]-[0022]), comprising:

data attribution detection means for detecting attribution of storing-target data (*The data is passed to the filter section. Out of the passed data, the filter section identifies expiration date information, significance information and classification information, [0022]*);

determination means for determining whether or not the storage of said data is to be performed based on the attribution of said data detected by said data attribution detection means (*When having passed over the expiration date, (Y) cancels received data (it does not record) and is completed, [0022]*);

data deletion means for deleting data having higher deletion-target priority than others from among a plurality of stored data, if said determination means determines that the storage of said data is to be performed and a storage medium for storing said data runs out of space, said deletion-target priority being determined based on attribution of said plurality of stored data (*The record control section records the information received from the filter section on a*

recording device. Here, when the capacity of a recording device is full, the data considered to be the most unnecessary are eliminated in order, judging from significance, classification, information, an expiration date ... Moreover, the record control section eliminates automatically the information which has passed over the expiration date in the recorded information, [0019]), and said data deletion means determines that said deletion-target priority of said data is high to delete said data if attribution of said data shows that said data is content copied from an external storage medium;

data storage means for storing said storing-target data in said storage medium after said data deletion means deletes data having higher said deletion-target priority (When the capacity of a recording device is full, the data considered to be the most unnecessary are eliminated in order, judging from significance, classification information, an expiration date, etc., and the information received newly is recorded, [0019]).

Regarding **claim 2**, Yuji further discloses said data attribution detection means detects attribution of said data based on applications which request the storage of said data (*A sending set transmits the data of a gestalt which the inverter changed and which can be distributed with a broadcasting mold, [0018]).*

Regarding **claim 3**, Yuji further discloses said data attribution detection means extracts data attribution information which said data contains to detect attribution of said data (*The data is passed to the filer section. Out of the passed data, the filer section identifies expiration date information, significance information and classification information, [0022]*).

Regarding **claims 4**, and **6**, Yuji further discloses the determination means determines the storage of said data is to be performed, if attribution of said data shows that said data is information relating to broadcast contents or said data is broadcast content data (*When it is judged that earthquake information, a heavy rain warning, etc. are important for a user as for the classification information which shows the classification of the contents whose information the and it will change into the data of a gestalt which can be distributed, [0018]. Since the information which can judge when informational important point or needlessness data are received, hence, does not record unnecessary information, [0029]*).

Regarding **claim 5**, Yuji further discloses the determination means determines the storage of said data is to be performed, if attribution of said data shows that said data is now-on-air information including title information of broadcast contents (*Classification information of the important information, i.e., earthquake information, a heavy rain warning etc. may be added with the category information which subdivided an*

informational classification further, [0018]. It is inherent that classification and/or category information contains title of the important news / information).

Regarding **claim 10**, Yuji clearly shows and discloses a data storage control method ([0018]-[0022]), comprising the steps of:

detecting attribution of storing-target data (*The data is passed to the filter section. Out of the passed data, the filter section identifies expiration date information, significance information and classification information, [0022]*);

determining whether or not the storage of said data is to be performed based on the attribution of said data detected by said data attribution detection step (*When having passed over the expiration date, (Y) cancels received data (it does not record) and is completed, [0022]*);

deleting data having higher deletion-target priority than others from among a plurality of stored data, if said determination step determines that the storage of said data is to be performed and a storage medium for storing said data runs out of space, said deletion-target priority being determined based on attribution of said plurality of stored data (*The record control section records the information received from the filter section on a recording device. Here, when the capacity of a recording device is full, the data*

considered to be the most unnecessary are eliminated in order, judging from significance, classification, information, an expiration date ... Moreover, the record control section eliminates automatically the information which has passed over the expiration date in the recorded information, [0019]), and if attribution of said data shows that said data was copied from an external storage medium, it is determined that said deletion-target priority of said data is high to delete said data; and

storing said storing-target data in said storage medium after said data deletion step deletes data having higher said deletion-target priority (When the capacity of a recording device is full, the data considered to be the most unnecessary are eliminated in order, judging from significance, classification information, an expiration date, etc., and the information received newly is recorded, [0019]).

Regarding **claim 11**, Yuji further discloses attribution of said data is detected based on applications which request the storage of said data, at said detecting (*A sending set transmits the data of a gestalt which the inverter changed and which can be distributed with a broadcasting mold, [0018]).*

Regarding **claim 12**, Yuji further discloses attribution of said data is detected by extracting data attribution information which said data

contains, at said detecting (*The data is passed to the filer section. Out of the passed data, the filer section identifies expiration date information, significance information and classification information, [0022]*).

Regarding **claims 13**, and **15**, Yuji further discloses it is determined that the storage of said data is to be performed, if attribution of said data shows that said data is information relating to broadcast contents or said data is broadcast content data, at said determining (*When it is judged that earthquake information, a heavy rain warning, etc. are important for a user as for the classification information which shows the classification of the contents whose information the and it will change into the data of a gestalt which can be distributed, [0018]. Since the information which can judge when informational important point or needlessness data are received, hence, does not record unnecessary information, [0029]*).

Regarding **claim 14**, Yuji further discloses it is determined that the storage of said data is to be performed, if attribution of said data shows that said data is now-on-air information including title information of broadcast contents, at said determining (*Classification information of the important information, i.e., earthquake information, a heavy rain warning etc. may be added with the category information which subdivided an informational classification further, [0018]. It is inherent that classification and/or category information contains title of the important news / information*).

Regarding **claim 19**, Yuji clearly shows and discloses a computer readable medium including computer executable instructions, wherein the instructions, when executed by a processor (*Figure 1*), cause the processor to perform a method comprising:

detecting step of detecting attribution of storing-target data
(*The data is passed to the filer section. Out of the passed data, the filer section identifies expiration date information, significance information and classification information, [0022]*);

determining whether or not the storage of said data is to be performed based on the attribution of said data detected by said data attribution detection step (*When having passed over the expiration date, (Y) cancels received data (it does not record) and is completed, [0022]*);

deleting data having higher deletion-target priority than others from among a plurality of stored data, if said determination step determines that the storage of said data is to be performed and a storage medium for storing said data runs out of space, said deletion-target priority being determined based on attribution of said plurality of stored data (*The record control section records the information received from the filter section on a recording device. Here, when the capacity of a recording device is full, the data considered to be the most unnecessary are eliminated in order,*

judging from significance, classification, information, an expiration date ... Moreover, the record control section eliminates automatically the information which has passed over the expiration date in the recorded information, [0019]), and if attribution of said data shows that said data is content copied from an external storage medium, it is determined that said deletion-target priority of said data is high to delete said data; and

storing said storing-target data in said storage medium after said data deletion step deletes data having higher said deletion-target priority (When the capacity of a recording device is full, the data considered to be the most unnecessary are eliminated in order, judging from significance, classification information, an expiration date, etc., and the information received newly is recorded, [0019]).

Regarding **claim 20**, Yuji further discloses attribution of said data is detected based on applications which request the storage of said data, at said detecting (*A sending set transmits the data of a gestalt which the inverter changed and which can be distributed with a broadcasting mold, [0018]).*

Regarding **claim 21**, Yuji further discloses attribution of said data is detected by extracting data attribution information which said data contains, at said detecting (*The data is passed to the filer section. Out of*

the passed data, the filer section identifies expiration date information, significance information and classification information, [0022]).

Regarding **claim 22**, Yuji further discloses a data storage control program, wherein it is determined that the storage of said data is to be performed, if attribution of said data shows that said data is related information relating to broadcast contents, at said determining (*When it is judged that earthquake information, a heavy rain warning, etc. are important for a user as for the classification information which shows the classification of the contents whose information the and it will change into the data of a gestalt which can be distributed, [0018]. Since the information which can judge when informational important point or needlessness data are received, hence, does not record unnecessary information, [0029]).*

Regarding **claim 24**, Yuji clearly shows and discloses a data storage control apparatus ([0018]-[0022]), comprising:

data attribution detection unit configured to detect attribution of storing-target data (*The data is passed to the filer section. Out of the passed data, the filer section identifies expiration date information, significance information and classification information, [0022]);*

determination means for determining whether or not the storage of said data is to be performed based on the attribution of

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said data detected by said data attribution detection means (*When having passed over the expiration date, (Y) cancels received data (it does not record) and is completed, [0022]*);

data deletion unit configured to delete data having higher deletion-target priority than others from among a plurality of stored data, if said determination means determines that the storage of said data is to be performed and a storage medium for storing said data runs out of space, said deletion-target priority being determined based on attribution of said plurality of stored data (*The record control section records the information received from the filter section on a recording device. Here, when the capacity of a recording device is full, the data considered to be the most unnecessary are eliminated in order, judging from significance, classification, information, an expiration date ... Moreover, the record control section eliminates automatically the information which has passed over the expiration date in the recorded information, [0019]*), and said data deletion unit is configured to determine that said deletion-target priority of said data is high to delete said data if attribution of said data shows that said data is content copied from an external storage medium;

data storage unit configured to store said storing-target data in said storage medium after said data deletion means deletes data having higher said deletion-target priority (*When the capacity of a*

recording device is full, the data considered to be the most unnecessary are eliminated in order, judging from significance, classification information, an expiration date, etc., and the information received newly is recorded, [0019]).

Regarding **claim 25**, Yuji further discloses said data attribution detection unit is configured to detect attribution of said data based on applications which request the storage of said data (*A sending set transmits the data of a gestalt which the inverter changed and which can be distributed with a broadcasting mold, [0018]).*

Regarding **claim 26**, Yuji further discloses said data attribution detection unit is configured to extract data attribution information which said data contains to detect attribution of said data (*The data is passed to the filer section. Out of the passed data, the filer section identifies expiration date information, significance information and classification information, [0022]).*

Regarding **claims 27**, and **29**, Yuji further discloses the determination unit is configured to determine the storage of said data is to be performed, if attribution of said data shows that said data is information relating to broadcast contents or said data is broadcast content data (*When it is judged that earthquake information, a heavy rain warning, etc. are important for a user as for the classification information which shows the classification of the contents whose information the and it will change*

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into the data of a gestalt which can be distributed, [0018]. Since the information which can judge when informational important point or needlessness data are received, hence, does not record unnecessary information, [0029]).

Regarding **claim 28**, Yuji further discloses the determination unit is configured to determine the storage of said data is to be performed, if attribution of said data shows that said data is now-on-air information including title information of broadcast contents (*Classification information of the important information, i.e., earthquake information, a heavy rain warning etc. may be added with the category information which subdivided an informational classification further, [0018]. It is inherent that classification and/or category information contains title of the important news / information*).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

12. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

13. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were

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made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

14. **Claims 7-8, 16-17, 23, 30-31**, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yuji (*Pub. No. JP 2003-173278, published on June 20, 2003*) in view of Wright, JR. (*Pub. No. US 2004/0122873, filed on December 20, 2002; hereinafter Wright*).

Regarding **claims 7-8**, and **30**, Yuji does not explicitly disclose if attribution of said data shows that said data is information relating to storage media / compact discs, said data deletion means determines that said deletion-target priority of said data is high to delete said data.

Wright discloses a file can have an attribute indicating the file is deletable associated with it. The attribute is indicative that the file is deletable to software, such as operating system software; or file system software or to a user, such as a system administrator, that the file is deletable. Wright further discloses that a file can include any collection of data that is treated by a system accessing the data as a unit capable of being input and output. Therefore, a file can include any directory entry, including a single file name, a group of file names, a sub-directory, a directory or other set or subset of data units ([0025]).

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teachings of Wright with the teachings of Yuji for the purpose of facilitating management of free file space by deleting files using their corresponding delete priorities ([0006] of Wright).

Regarding **claims 16-17, 23, and 31**, Wright further discloses if attribution of said data shows that said data is information relating / corresponding to storage media/compact discs, it is determined that said deletion-target priority of said data is high to delete said data (*a file can have an attribute indicating the file is deletable associated with it. The attribute is indicative that the file is deletable to software, such as operating system software; or file system software or to a user, such as a system administrator, that the file is deletable. A file can include any collection of data that is treated by a system accessing the data as a unit capable of being input and output. Therefore, a file can include any directory entry, including a single file name, a group of file names, a sub-directory, a directory or other set or subset of data units, [0025]*).

Conclusion

15. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Contact Information

16. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Son T. Hoang whose telephone number is (571) 270-1752. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (7:30 AM – 4:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Christian Chace can be reached on (571) 272-4190. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information

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for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/S.H./

Son T. Hoang
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2165
March 27, 2008

/S. P./

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2164

/Christian P. Chace/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2169